

215-24
January 17, 1973

Mr. Rogers, who makes a recommendation to the Executive Council. The Chairman along with the eight other members takes them as they come in the order in which they are presented number wise. The Chairman reads the number of the bill, and he says is there any objection to referring the bill to the area that Mr. Rogers indicated, as we go down the list if there is, and sometimes there are, then we make the change but in every case the reference of every bill is the collective judgement of the nine members and not Senator Carpenter. I would like it to be otherwise, but don't accuse me of things that don't prevail because that's the problem that I have. People think I'm a dictatorship and people are apprehensive and you have a right to be, and I've told this body time and time again, watch Carpenter, and I still make the same suggestion, but bear in mind I will never do anything in the Executive Council which doesn't meet with the approval of five members, I haven't yet and I never will. So you ought to understand what you are talking about, before you complain. You can come any time you want to, we've been known to refer bills to other committees upon request, whether there germane or whether there not. I think this body has a fundamental desire and responsibility to help each other. There is no committee in this state government who is a specialist on anything. It's a question of desire of where you want it and when five members of my board wants it anyplace then I'm for it.

SPEAKER: The question is, the motion is, to commit this bill to committee for public hearing, it requires 25 votes, all those in favor of committing it to a public hearing vote yes, all those opposed vote no.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Call it a house, Mr. President and the roll call vote, I want everybody to be on record.

SPEAKER: The request has been made for a call of the house, do I see five hands. Yes I see five hands, the house is under call. You all please take your seats, the house in under call and please record your presence. Clear the board Mr. Clerk. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Speaker while that's being taken care of, there is something that I regret bringing up this morning, but I must. I'm the only black representative in this body, sometimes statements are made without intending to be offensive but a lot of remarks are made with reference to black, which is what I am, like Senator Snyder said it's a black mark on the name of the legislature. Let it be a white mark, let every time you decide to say black, say white, then you'll begin to see how there are racist statements which slip into people conversation which they are not aware of, but I'm keenly aware of. So anytime you're going to make a negative statement, and you decide to identify with black, identify with white, walk a half a step in my shoes, you can't walk in them all together, you're the majority and you will always be the majority. You can not be made sensitive to things unless I assume my responsibility and bring it to your attention. I have four children at home, they are not going to be made ashamed of what they are by any body, they are not going to be made ashamed of me by me allowing things like this to pass without opposing them.

SPEAKER: The Chair would observe that I did permit Senator Chambers to talk while under call, but I was taken by surprise and from here on out I will not permit one personal privilege or otherwise statements while we are under call, but any time Senator Chambers later on wants to ask for point of personal privilege, the Chair will grant it. Is there a motion to raise the call. It has been moved and seconded that the call be raised. All in favor vote aye, those opposed vote no. The call is raised.

CLERK: 45 ayes Mr. President on motion to raise the call.